

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Cohn, et al.  
Filed : Herewith  
Serial No. : NYA  
For : Novel Polymeric Compositions  
Group Art Unit : NYA  
Examiner : NYA

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**Preliminary Amendment in Application**

Sir:

Please enter the following amendment in the above-referenced filed herewith before calculating the filing fee and issuing a first office action.

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 1, after the title of the application, please insert the following:

**--Related Applications**

This application is a division of U.S. application no. 09/006,664, filed January 13, 1998, which is a continuation-in-part application of serial number 08/890,802, filed July 11, 1997, now U.S. patent no. 6,136,330.--

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 4-5, and 23-88 and amend the remaining claims as follows.

1. (Amended) A polymeric composition comprising coupled AB diblocks, where A is a

polyester unit [derived] obtained [from the polymerization of] by polymerizing monomers selected from the group consisting of lactic acid, lactide, glycolic acid, glycolide,  $\beta$ -propiolactone,  $\epsilon$ -caprolactone,  $\delta$ -glutarolactone,  $\delta$ -valerolactone,  $\beta$ -butyrolactone, pivalolactone,  $\alpha,\alpha$ -diethylpropiolactone, ethylene carbonate, trimethylene carbonate,  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone, p-dioxanone, 1,4-dioxepan-2-one, 3-methyl-1,4-dioxane-2,5-dione, 3,3,-dimethyl-1-4-dioxane-2,5-dione, cyclic esters of  $\alpha$ -hydroxybutyric acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxyvaleric acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxyisovaleric acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxycaproic acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxy- $\alpha$ -ethylbutyric acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxyisocaproic acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxy- $\alpha$ -methyl valeric acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxyheptanoic acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxystearic acid,  $\alpha$ -hydroxylignoceric acid, salicylic acid and mixtures, thereof and B is [derived from] obtained by reacting a hydroxyl, amine or carboxylic terminated compound end-capped with a non-reactive group, said hydroxyl, amine or carboxyl terminated compound initiating the polymerization of said monomers to form said polyester unit, said AB diblock being further [reacted with one or more coupling agents or crosslinking agents] coupled or crosslinked to produce di-diblocks, multi-blocks, star-like polymers and comb-like polymers.

#### REMARKS

After amendment, claims 1-3 and 6-22 are pending in the present application, claims 4-5 and 23-88 having been cancelled. Please enter this preliminary amendment before calculating the filing fee for this application and issuing a first action.

Dated: 3/13/01

Respectfully submitted,

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